



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
6950 Americana Parkway, Suite H
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-4127

November 16, 2005

B. Jennifer Davis, Chief
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Environmental Review Section
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Westlake:

This responds to your letter of November 1, 2005 requesting our concurrence in your conclusion that construction of the proposed American Centrifuge Plant at the DOE Reservation in Piketon, Ohio (Pike County, Docket No.: 70-7004) would not affect the Indiana bat, timber rattlesnake, or any listed critical habitat. The project is located on land devoid of trees. The Indiana bat is the only Federally-listed endangered or threatened species whose range includes Pike County, but the range of the timber rattlesnake, for which a pre-listing conservation plan is being initiated, also includes Pike County. Habitat for these 2 species does not occur in the project area.

We agree with your conclusion that construction of the proposed American Centrifuge Plant will not affect the Indiana bat, timber rattlesnake, or any listed critical habitat, because habitats of these species do not occur in the project area.

There are no Federal wilderness areas, wildlife refuges, or designated Critical Habitat within the vicinity of the proposed site.

This technical assistance letter is submitted in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C.661 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and is consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy.

If you have questions, or if we may be of further assistance in this matter, please contact Mr. Bill Kurey of this office at 614-469-6923 extension 14.

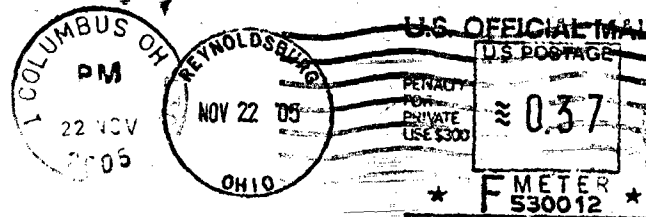
Sincerely,

Mary Knapp, Ph.D.
Supervisor

cc: ODNr, DOW, SCEA Unit, Columbus, OH

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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES
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